# STUDENT INFORMATION HANDBOOK 2024

## Version II

# INDEX

# Course Programmes [M. Tech, M. Tech (Online), M Des, M Mgt, MSc, M Engg, 1+1 Joint Masters]

IISc offers Course programmes in all Engineering disciplines leading to a Master's degree. These are termed M. Tech in Engineering. IISc offers Master's degrees in Design (M Des), Management (M Mgt), and Online mode in certain disciplines (M Tech (Online)). In addition, IISc offers MSc degrees in Life Sciences and Chemical Sciences.

IISc also offers a 1-year M. Engg programme and a 1+1 year Joint Masters Programme.

The details of subjects offered in each programme (Scheme of Instruction) are available at Pages - Academics (sharepoint.com)

The rules and regulations of the PG Course programmes are given below.

## 1.1 Course Requirements

[Point No. 1.1.9 -1.1.12 are not applicable to M. Tech (Online) students]

| Programme | All students who joined prior to July 2016 ( 8 Point Scale) | Students joining after July 2016 (10 Point Scale) |
|---|---|---|
| M. Tech/ MDes/ MMgt/ MSc/ M. Tech (Online)/ M. Tech (Sponsored)<br><br>(64 credits) | First Term: A minimum TGPA of 3.5<br>Subsequent Terms: A minimum CGPA of 4.0 | First Term: A minimum TGPA of 4.0<br>Subsequent Terms: A minimum CGPA of 5.0 |

Table 1.1 – Course requirements for Master's Programmes

1.1.1        Under the guidance of the Faculty Advisor, each student registers for a set of courses. These include both the Core (Hard and Soft) and Elective courses. Apart from the Core and Elective Courses, credits are also earned through a Project. The distribution of credits for Core courses, Elective courses and Project varies from programme to programme. Registration of all the courses is done in SAP – See details of SAP in Section 12.

1.1.2        Hard Core courses are compulsory for a programme.

1.1.3        Soft Core courses are courses in a specific area/specialization and the student may choose courses from this set of courses based on suitability in consultation with the advisor.

1.1.4        Electives are courses the student can choose, even from outside the programme area.

1.1.5    The stipulation on the minimum number of credits does not apply to the final term. On all matters connected with course work and the prescribed requirements for the degree, students should seek the guidance of their advisors, DCC Convenor and/or the Chair of the department.

1.1.6    For all course programmes, the credit load per term (including project credits) is as follows:

| Credit Load | No. of Credits | |
|---|---|---|
| | Regular Term | Summer Term |
| Normal | 16 | 8 |
| Minimum | 12 | 6 |
| Maximum (in 1st Term) | 18 | – |
| Maximum (if TGPA/ CGPA in the previous Term is < 7.0 But ≥ 5.0) | 16 | 8 |
| Maximum if TGPA/CGPA is ≥ 7.0 but < 9.0 | 18 | 8 |
| Maximum if TGPA/CGPA is ≥ 9.0 | 21 | 8 |

Table 1.2 – Allowed Credit Load

1.1.7    Students may be allowed to complete the programme at a slower pace. This requires prior approval of the Deans, based on a recommendation from the Faculty Advisor and the Chair of the department. Such approvals can be requested at the beginning of the term.

1.1.8    Within 15 days of registration, a student may apply to the Chair of the department seeking exemption from a core course if the student had credited the same course or a course with a similar syllabus in their prior education. If the Chair approves, the student shall give a written examination, (prior to the last date for dropping the Course without mention). Such an option is not available for Courses offered in the summer term.

1.1.9    Until the result is declared, the student should continue to attend classes for the course. If the exemption is not granted, they should continue as a regular student.

1.1.10    Exemption is granted if the student secures a 'B' or a higher grade in this examination. The student will be given the same grade in the course as the one obtained in the written examination; the credits will be counted towards the degree requirements and used for the computation of the TGPA/CGPA.

1.1.11    Students may get an exemption for a maximum of 6 credits over the entire programme.

1.1.12    Students may note that exemptions may not be available in all courses.

1.1.13    Auditing of courses is permitted with the consent of the course instructors. Audited courses are not counted towards TGPA/CGPA or towards meeting the Credit Requirements for the award of degree. Students are permitted to change the course registration type from Credit to Audit. This should be done within the timeline as applicable for 'course dropping without mention' in the transcript.

## 1.2 Continuous Assessment

1.2.1     Evaluation is based on continuous assessment, in which both sessional work and the terminal examination contribute to the final assessment.

1.2.2     Sessional work consists of class tests, mid-term examinations, homework assignments etc. Absence from tests or late submission of homework will result in a loss of marks. The break-up of the sessional marks among these components is announced at the beginning of the course.

1.2.3     Students' registration will be terminated if they secure more than two "F" Grades.

## 1.3 Final Examination

1.3.1     Terminal examinations are usually held during the last fortnight of each term and during the last week of the summer term. The timetable is notified in advance. Attendance in the terminal examination is compulsory. If a student is absent, they shall be awarded zero marks and an 'F' grade. If a student is unable to appear for the final exam for medical reasons, they will be awarded an "X" Grade (Refer to 6.3.4 section).

## 1.4 Minimum requirement of CGPA, TGPA

1.4.1     In the first term, the TGPA should not be below 4.0, and in subsequent terms, the CGPA should not be below 5.0. If this condition is not satisfied, it will result in the termination of the student's registration. In some cases, the students may appeal to the Director (through the Deans) for the revocation of termination upon a strong recommendation by the department.

1.4.2     In the first term, if the TGPA falls between 4.0 and 5.0, then in the following term, the student is required to register for fewer courses but must satisfy the prescribed minimum.

## 1.5 Project

1.5.1     Students may, in consent with their supervisors begin their project work during the summer term of the first year/August term of the second year. However, the students register for the project in their Final Term.  The department/DCC specifies the break-up of the total project workload between the summer term and the subsequent August and January terms. A single composite project grade is awarded at the end of the final term. The project grade is combined with the CGPA of the course work towards the passing class (division) for the degree award.

1.5.2     Industry Project in Management Department – Students are allowed to carry out an Industry based project for one semester.

1.5.3     The minimum pass grade for the project work is a 'D' grade. A student who secures an 'F' grade will be given an opportunity to work again on the project. The period of this extension of project work must be approved by the SCC on the recommendation of the DCC and the project supervisor.

## 1.6 Duration of programme

1.6.1     The normal duration of the course programmes(M. Tech/ M. Mgt, M. Des, M.Sc) is two years. In special circumstances, a student may be permitted an extension but must complete all requirements within a maximum of 3 years.

1.6.2      Extensions to programmes requested for medical reasons may be approved by the Deans based on the recommendation from the health centre/CMO, faculty advisor, DCC/PCC, and Department Chair/Convenor of M Sc Programmes.

1.6.3     For extensions to programmes requested on non-medical grounds, the decision may be taken on a case-by-case basis by Deans, subject to recommendations from the faculty advisor, Department Chair/Convenor of M. Sc Programmes, and DCC/PCC. [Refer 1.11.7 for M. Tech (Online)].

1.6.3     The scholarship (if applicable) will be restricted to the first two years.

1.6.4     The computation of the final CGPA is done only after the student clears all courses successfully.

## 1.7 Classification of Awards

1.7.1     Students graduate with the award of M. Tech/M. Tech(Online)/MDes/MMgt/MSc degrees (as applicable). Distinction is awarded to a student securing a CGPA of 8.5 or above (including the project grade).

## 1.8 Attendance

1.8.1     A minimum attendance of 75% on each course is mandatory. A shortage of attendance may be condoned by the Deans in exceptional circumstances.

## 1.9 Transfer to PhD Programme

1.9.1     Motivated M. Tech/ MDes/ M. Tech (ERP)/ M. Tech (Sponsored) students are given the option to transfer to PhD upon the completion of two terms.

1.9.2     The minimum CGPA for eligibility to transfer to a PhD programme is 8.0, considering all the courses (a minimum of 24 credits) taken in the first two terms. In special cases, this may be relaxed to a CGPA of 7.5, on the basis of a specific recommendation from the department and with visible evidence of other strengths. In the computation of the CGPA, all the courses credited by the student will be considered.

1.9.3     The proposed research supervisor must be identified at the time of applying for the transfer.

1.9.4     All such cases will be considered based on an interview, by a committee consisting of:

- Chair of the department*
- Faculty Advisor
- Two faculty members from the department
- Proposed PhD Research Supervisor(s) (in case it is different from the current faculty advisor)

*When the Chair of the department is the Faculty Advisor or the proposed Research Supervisor, another faculty member of the department to Chair the committee may be identified.

1.9.5    The recommendation of the committee will be considered by the Senate Committee on Research Conferments (SCRC). Application for transfer should be made within a month of the declaration of the 2nd semester results on SAP.

1.9.6    If approved, the date of registration for the PhD programme will be the date of joining the M. Tech/ MDes/ M. Tech (Sponsored) programme.

1.9.7    The PhD research topic should be such that the courses taken during the first year of the M. Tech/ MDes/ M. Tech (Sponsored) are sufficient for the Research Training Programme (RTP). However, depending on the requirements of the research problem and the recommendation of the Research Supervisor(s), the student may credit one or two extra courses. In all cases, they should complete the Comprehensive Examination within one year after transferring to the PhD programme.

1.9.8    The student will receive a PhD scholarship of Rs. 37,000 p.m. with effect from the date of joining M. Tech / MDes. An enhanced scholarship of Rs. 42,000 will be paid upon successful completion of the Comprehensive Examination but only after completion of two years from the date of initial registration for M. Tech / MDes.

## 1.10 Internship (M. Tech, MDes, MMgt)

1.10.1    The maximum permitted period of internship for course students is 3 months with scholarship (wherever applicable).

1.10.2    The entire period of the internship will be considered part of their degree programme.

1.10.3    Internships must be approved by the Deans. In special cases, internships beyond three months may be permitted with the approval of SCRC.

## 1.11 Cancellation of Registration and Reinstatement of Registration

1.11.1    If the stipulated course requirements are not completed within the permissible two-year registration period, the registration of the students in all course programmes (M. Tech, M. Sc, M. Mgt, M. Des) will be automatically cancelled, except M. Tech. (Online) students

1.11.2    Deregistered students can request a revocation of their cancellation of registration, subject to recommendations from their faculty advisor, DCC and Department Chair. Such requests will be reviewed and decided by the Dean on a case-by-case basis.

## 1.12 M. Tech (Online)

All rules and regulations applicable to the Regular M. Tech programme are in-principle applicable to the M. Tech (Online) Programme, with the following differences:

1.12.1    The Master's programme is available only to the candidates sponsored by the organizations that employ them through an agreement between IISc and the organization. '

1.12.2    Credit load is indicated in the Table below:

| | Regular Term | | Summer Term | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Minimum Credits | Maximum Credits | Minimum Credits | Maximum Credits |
| Only Course Credits in a Term | 3 | 12 | 0 | 8 |
| Course and Project Credits in a Term | 3 | 16 | 0 | 12 |
| Only Project Credits *(After required course credits are completed)* | 3 | 21 | 0 | 12 |

Table 1.3 –Credit Load

1.12.3    Project grading will be Pass/Fail. The project grade will not be included in the computation of CGPA.

1.12.4    The Programme Curriculum Committee (PCC) specifies the break-up of the total project credits across different terms.

1.12.5    Students may only take online courses offered within the M. Tech (Online) programme. Auditing of courses is not permitted.

1.12.6    Students are not eligible for Internships or Scholarships from the Institute.

1.12.7    The total time for completion of the degree is expected to be 3 years and must not normally exceed 4 years.

1.12.8    No transfer/upgradation/continuation to PhD is permissible.

1.12.9    Candidates may have a break in studies of a maximum of two semesters. The request for such a break in studies must come through the sponsoring organization. In addition, women can avail of maternity leave as applicable (the total of all maternity leaves cannot exceed 1 year, refer to 9.2.3). A registration fee must be paid for the duration of the break in studies to keep the registration active.

1.12.10   The degree conferred on the successful students is equivalent to the regular Master of Technology degree in all respects, and the awardees are entitled to all the privileges and

opportunities available to the regular Master of Technology degree holders.

1.12.11    No distinction shall be awarded to M. Tech (Online) students as the project grade is not included in CGPA calculation.

## 1.13 1 Year Masters in Engineering (M Engg)

1.13.1      The total time for completion of the degree is 1 year.

1.13.2      Students are expected to complete 32 credits, comprising 23 credits of core courses and 9 credits of electives, within the academic year

1.13.3      Students pursuing this programme are not eligible to draw scholarships from the Institute.

1.13.4      Students of this programme are not permitted to undertake internships.

1.13.5      Students under this programme are not guaranteed hostel accommodation and hostel accommodation may be given subject to availability.

## 1.14 1+1 Year Joint Master programme with top Taiwanese Universities

1.14.1      This is a Joint Master's Programme between IISc and leading Taiwanese Universities, with one serving as the home institution and the other as the host institution

1.14.2      Students will complete the required coursework credits at their home institution during the first year. In the second year, they will focus on project or research activities at the host institution

1.14.3      IISc students who study at Taiwanese universities in their second year will register for their Project course at IISc during their fourth semester. Any documents or certificates received from the Taiwanese universities should be submitted to the academic section for record-keeping.

### END OF CHAPTER 1

# CHAPTER 2

# PG – Research Programmes – M. Tech (Res)

IISc offers a post-graduate research programme i.e., M. Tech (Research). The students enrolled in this programme are expected to complete the course work and research work and submit their M. Tech (Research) thesis by the end of their registration period as per the norms of the Institution. In principle, all the students are provided with the scholarship as per the norms of the Institution.

## 2.1 Duration of Residence

| Students registered for | Normal | Minimum | Maximum |
|---|---|---|---|
| M. Tech (Research) | 2 | 1 | 2½ |

2.1.1      The minimum and maximum periods mentioned above are counted from the term in the academic year when the students are admitted for the programme (i.e., August Term or January Term, accordingly). Students are provided with hostel rooms (if available) only for the above durations of the residence requirements. Once the maximum period is completed, the studentship is terminated, and the students cannot stay in the hostel rooms beyond the maximum periods mentioned.

## 2.2 Course Requirement

| Programme | All students who joined prior to July 2016 (8 Point Scale) | Students joining after July 2016 (10 Point Scale) |
|---|---|---|
| M. Tech (Res) [MSc (Engg) prior to 2016] (12 credits) | Minimum 12 credits with minimum CGPA of 5.5<br><br>(Basket rule applies to achieve the 5.5 CGPA) | Minimum 12 credits with minimum CGPA of 7 (with basket rule) |
| | Waiver of General Test for students who complete courses in two semesters with a CGPA of at least 6.0<br><br>Continuation from MSc (Engg.) to PhD:<br>Minimum CGPA 6.5; for special cases 6 (All courses considered) | No General Test for M. Tech (Res)<br><br>Continuation from M. Tech (Res) to PhD requires a minimum CGPA 8.0; for special cases 7.5 (All courses considered)<br><br>Candidates can take up to a maximum of 21 credits under RTP |
| Basket rule: It is applicable only to M. Tech (Res) and PhD students who have excess credits (than minimum required) but not meeting CGPA requirements. According to this rule, from all the courses a student has completed, the courses with the best grades that make up the minimum RTP requirements will be considered for computation of CGPA. | | |

Table 2.1 – Course requirement for M. Tech (Res)

2.2.1    M. Tech (Research) students must complete their RTP in one year. The minimum number of credits that a student has to complete and the maximum number of credits a student is allowed to register under RTP courses are as follows.

| Research Training Programme | Minimum Credits | Maximum Credits |
|---|---|---|
| M. Tech (Research) | 12 | 21 |

2.2.2    If a student fails to get a minimum CGPA of 7.0 even after applying the basket rule and taking the maximum permissible credits for the RTP or obtains more than one 'F' grade, their registration will be terminated.

2.2.3    Students are permitted to change the course registration type from RTP to Non-RTP or Audit, Non-RTP to Audit, and Credit to Audit. In addition, students are also permitted to change the course registration type from Non-RTP to RTP with the due approval from their Research Supervisor and DCC/Chair. This should be done within the timelines as applicable for 'course dropping without mention' in the transcript.

## 2.3  Upgrading of Registration from M. Tech (Research) to PhD

2.3.1    A student who has completed at least 12 credits of courses and secured a minimum CGPA of 8.0 can upgrade their registration to PhD programme. In this computation of the CGPA, the basket rule shall not apply, and all credited courses shall be considered.

2.3.2    In special cases, upgrading may be permitted if the CGPA is not less than 7.5, based on the specific recommendation of the Committee, citing other visible academic strengths of the candidate.

2.3.3    Interested candidates should submit a request through the Research Supervisor to the Chair of the department at the end of the second or third term.

2.3.4    All such requests will be considered initially by a committee consisting of the following:

- Chair of the department*
- Two faculty members from the department
- Research Supervisor/s for M. Tech (Res)
- Proposed PhD Research Supervisor(s) for PhD

*When the Chair of the department is the Faculty Advisor or the proposed Research Supervisor, they will identify another faculty member of the department to Chair the committee.

2.3.5    The recommendation of the Committee should be received by the SCRC on SAP before 30th June / 30th November and will be considered in July/December. If the upgradation is approved, the date of registration for PhD will be the date of registration for M. Tech (Res).

2.3.6    A PhD scholarship of Rs. 37,000 p.m. will be paid with effect from the date of joining M. Tech (Res). An enhanced scholarship of Rs. 42,000 p.m. will be paid upon successful completion of the Comprehensive Examination but only after completion of two years from the date of

registration.

2.3.7    The candidate should complete the RTP with a minimum of 24 credits. The RTP and the Comprehensive Examination should be completed within two years from the date of registration.

2.3.8    Students upgrading themselves from M. Tech (Res) to PhD can convert their non-RTP courses to RTP courses.

2.3.9    The total period of scholarship will be the same as that for a regular PhD student registering directly for the PhD degree, i.e., 5 years.

## 2.4  Continuation for PhD after Submission of M. Tech (Res) Thesis

2.4.1    A candidate desirous of continuing for PhD after submission of the M. Tech (Res) thesis should apply to the Chair of the department, through the Research Supervisor, within 15 days of thesis submission.

2.4.2    All such requests will be considered initially by a committee consisting of the following:
   - Chair of the department*
   - Two faculty members from the department
   - Research Supervisor/s for M. Tech (Res)
   - Proposed PhD Research Supervisor(s) for PhD (If the proposed research supervisor is different from the current research supervisor)

*When the Chair of the department is the Faculty Advisor or the proposed Research Supervisor, they will identify another faculty member of the department to Chair the committee.

2.4.3    To be eligible, the candidate should have secured a CGPA of 8.0 (considering all courses credited, and not just RTP courses). In special cases, this may be relaxed to a CGPA of not less than 7.5, on the specific recommendation of the committee, citing other visible academic strengths of the candidate.

2.4.4    Research publications arising out of the M. Tech (Res) work would be a positive factor.

2.4.5    Students who have submitted their M. Tech (Research) thesis after revocation of cancellation of registration are not eligible for continuation to PhD. They must apply through the regular research admission process of the Institute.

2.4.6    After receiving the approval of the SCRC, the candidate should apply for PhD registration, which would be provisional, subject to the award of the M. Tech (Res) degree.

2.4.7    The date of registration for the PhD programme will be the date of submission of the M. Tech (Res) thesis.

2.4.8    The student is eligible for scholarship from the date of the PhD registration on the terms applicable to students who register for PhD.

2.4.9    The student should complete the RTP by taking at least 12 additional credits, irrespective of the number of credits secured in M. Tech (Res).

## 2.5 Monitoring of Progress

2.5.1    Monitoring the progress of M. Tech (Res) Registrants is done by a departmental committee as in the case of PhD registrants, except that the committee will have the supervisor and one expert from the department.

### 2.5.2    Cancellation of Registration and Reinstatement of Registration

2.5.2.1    There is a period beyond which the registration is automatically cancelled – see table below. After the cancellation of registration, the student can submit the thesis only after getting the cancellation revoked. They must initiate this process by submitting a draft thesis, along with a letter to the Dean furnishing justifiable reasons for the delay in thesis submission.

2.5.2.2    The Research Supervisor should forward this letter and the draft thesis through the Chair of the Department, along with a letter in support of the appeal. Under some circumstances, the cancellation of registration may be revoked.

2.5.2.3    The following table shows details of the different time periods and the maximum period of registration, beyond which registration will automatically be cancelled.

| Programme | Cancellation after | Reinstatement by Deans | Reinstatement by Director |
|---|---|---|---|
| M. Tech (Res) | 2 Years 6 Months | 2.5Y – 3Y: Without Deans' committee. <br> 3Y – 4Y: With Deans' committee. | 4Y – 5Y: Medical reasons only. With Deans' committee and extra guidelines. <br> Beyond 5Y: No reinstatement. |

2.5.2.4    A thesis review committee is formed by the Dean with the supervisor as the convener. For M. Tech (Res) candidates, the committee will consist of two additional members with at least one from outside the candidate's department. The committee will consider all aspects of the thesis, including publications arising out of the research, suitability of the thesis for a degree of the Institute, and the status of the thesis regarding corrections to be made, etc.

2.5.2.5    The Dean may seek the opinion of experts in cases where there is no thesis review committee necessary. In deserving cases, they will recommend the revocation to the Chair of the Senate. The criteria for revocation include: justifiability of the delay in submission, publications arising out of the thesis, suitability of the thesis for a degree of the Institute, and the status of the thesis regarding corrections etc.